III.—GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1956–57.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while rising to speak on the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 1956–57, I cannot but recall the words mentioned by my esteemed Friend Sri V. R. Ranganatha Mudaliar urging re-examination and revision of our administrative system. I am in entire agreement with him that the whole pattern of our administrative machinery should be reorientated, of course, without impairing efficiency. As the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education was not present here on the day he spoke, I would appeal to him to send for a copy of his speech and take necessary action on the remarks made by him with regard to the Education and the Police Departments. Certainly, the Legislature would not grudge any increase in expenditure on vital services. But the tendency to create extra posts every now and then should be curbed. As an instance of this, I would invite hon. Members' attention to Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Act Administration. We find that for the purpose of providing adequate field machinery to check all transport vehicles for payment of the motor vehicles tax due to the State, the Government have sanctioned the employment of one officer in the Grade of Regional Transport Officer, 12 Motor Vehicles Inspectors, 7 Assistant Motor Vehicles Inspectors, 7 lower division clerks, 7 attenders and 40 traffic guards, the whole expenditure amounting to nearly one lakh of rupees recurring every year. I do not see any reason why there should be such a big establishment for this purpose. All this work was being done till now by the Police Department and I do not see why this innovation has been brought in. There is one officer working here in Madras under the scheme. Is he a presidency officer touring all over the State, checking all motor vehicles in order to verify payment of tax? This work can well be done by the Regional Transport Officers, if the work should be transferred from the Police Department to the Transport authorities. The Police Department was doing this work all right up to this time and I see no reason or justification for the creation of these posts. I believe an accountant should be able to compile and check the reports of the Police Officers and Regional Transport Officers. I would appeal to the Government to re-examine this question or tell the House before we are called upon to vote on this item what great necessity arose for creating such special posts. If the Police Department had not been doing its job properly, it ought to have been pulled up and there was no necessity to come forward with a Supplementary Demand covering the employment of such a huge staff costing one lakh of rupees per annum.

Next, I should like to take up Demand IX. Elections to panchayats are due in 1957–58 and for this purpose, a sum of Rs. 2,14,000 is asked for as Supplementary Demand. More than five years have elapsed since the Madras Village Panchayats Act,

1950, came into force. Election of members to panchayat boards was held then. Afterwards, for some reason or another, elections have been postponed. Sometime ago, Mr. Rajaram Naidu, as Minister for Local Administration, came out with a White Paper on Panchayats. Now we have another White Paper on Local Administration. I do not see any reason why elections should be postponed from time to time. I am glad that provision has been made now for revision of electoral rolls—two lakhs of rupees. But I should like to know when elections will be held—whether before the expiry of the term of the present members or whether they will be given another lease of life and whether at all the elections will be held before March 1957. We have got the general elections and on that plea perhaps the life of the panchayat boards may be further extended. There is again the question of the impending Panchayat reform as outlined in the White Paper on Local Administration and that might be put forward as a plea for extending the life of the present panchayat boards. If so, the preparation of electoral rolls now would be a waste and we will have to spend again money on the revision of electoral rolls some time next year. The position with regard to those panchayat elections should be made clear. 3-20 p.m.

Referring to Demand XI, I find that the revised rates of dearness allowance are applicable to teachers under local boards and private managements. Orders with regard to teachers under local boards alone have been issued. But it is a pity that orders with regard to teachers under private managements have not been issued. I have received a number of enquiries about it and I would, of course, draw the attention of the people concerned to the fact that the Government have definitely stated in the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure that for the teachers under private management also they have sanctioned the special additional pay which will raise their emoluments by about Rs. 5 or Rs. 7 as has been done in the case of Non-Gazetted Officers. I trust that Government would give effect to this order and not delay it any more. I would request the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education to see to it that early orders are issued in this matter.

Speaking about the educational policy, I am indeed glad that the Report of the Legislature Committee on the White Paper has been received well by the public, by the educationists and by all concerned. Yesterday, my hon. Friend Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai, at another place, paid a high compliment to the Hon. the Minister for Education and to the Legislature Committee for having come forward with definite conclusion on the State educational policy, which has been hanging fire for a very long time. But I do not know why there is a sort of gerenral feeling going about that the scheme that has been finalized unanimously by the Committee may not be implemented. I do not know who started such a sort of rumour at all but I feel if there is anything that should be done urgently, it is this and I would implore the

Hon. the Minister for Education to allay all such doubts and to see to it that the proposals embodied in the Report of the Committee are given effect to. The Syllabus Committee has, I believe, been constituted. I would earnestly appeal to the Hon. the Minister for Education to see that this new scheme is implemented with effect from the next school year, viz., 1957–58.

Let me now refer to " Police ", Demand XIV. We find that the visits of high personages has cost us [vide items (i) and (ii) under the major head 29—Police] as much as Rs. 5,46,900. This is due to the heavy expenditure incurred on the arrangements made for the visits of high personages to our State. I think, Sir, that this item should be debited to the Central Government. Foreign affairs and all matters which bring the Union into diplomatic relations with foreign countries, etc., are Central subjects and so, the expenditure incurred on the visits of high personages should be made a charge on the Central Government. I do hope that this Government would examine this question. Of course, we are glad that high personages are visiting this State and in hospitality bound we should make the necessary arrangements. We may not grudge this expenditure. But the financial resources of our State are not quite satisfactory and when we have a large deficit to be covered, it is not improper if an arrangement is arrived at by which this expenditure could be debited to the Central funds.

Again under ' Police ' Demand, hon. Members will note that under sub-head ' h. special police ', a sum of Rs. 2,28,000 is asked for as supplementary expenditure for office contingencies. The explanatory note says that payment of arrears of electricity and water-supply charges from December 1952 onwards payable to the Military Engineering Department on account of Madukarai camp building, has accounted for an increase under this head. The increase is Rs. 2,28,000, for four years. Dividing it by 4, the annual expenditure comes to roughly Rs. 60,000. Dividing it by 12, the monthly expenditure on account of electricity and water-supply charges for this building occupied by the Malabar Special Police comes to Rs. 5,000. I am surprised that a sum of Rs. 5,000 per month should have been incurred on electricity and water-supply charges for the camp buildings occupied by the Police. I would earnestly plead that the figures furnished should be scrutinized and that such extravagant waste of contingencies should be checked and condemned in the strongest terms.

I cannot but refer to a few matters concerning my constituency. In the scheme of provincialization of taluk headquarters hospitals, we find that the municipal dispensary at Sivakasi and the Local Fund Hospital at Thirumangalam are proposed to be taken over by Government this year. I do not know what has become of the proposal we have been pressing for the provincialization of taluk headquarters hospitals at Madurantakam and Sriperumbudur, which has been pending for such a long time. The Government have repeatedly stated that orders will be issued to provincialize

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these hospitals but we find that no provision has been made for the same this year or in the next. While on this, I should like to refer to the deplorable state in which the Government Headquarters Hospital in Chingleput is being kept. I have made a representation in this matter to the new Minister for Health. We find in the supplementary estimate that under the head " Capital Outlay on Civil Works ", provision has been made for putting up additional buildings for Government Headquarters Hospital at Ramanathapuram and Cuddalore and the taluk headquarters hospitals at Gobichettipalayam, Kumbakonam, Tindivanam, Palani and Athur. But in spite of the fact that a local gentleman has come forward with a donation of Rs. 5 lakhs in the case of Chingleput hospital, in spite of the fact that the foundation-stone for the hospital has been laid by the ex-Minister of Health, Sri A. B. Shetty, and even though plans and estimates have been prepared and sent by the Chief Engineer to Government with a statement of the probable cost, I believe, for Rs. 20 lakhs, no orders have been passed by the Government so far sanctioning the scheme. No provision has been made for this either in the Supplementary Estimate or in the Budget for 1957–58. I request the Hon. the Minister for Health to look into this. The donation of Rs. 5 lakhs by the local gentleman could be utilized; with that, work could be started and the expenditure could be spread over two or three years. I request that administrative approval to the plans and estimates sent by the Chief Engineer, P.W.D., should be accorded immediately so that the work may be started at least in 1957–58 with the money that is immediately available, viz., Rs. 5 lakhs, that has been donated; further expenditure may be provided for in the Budget for the ensuing years. I should also mention, in this connexion, that the staff of Medical Officers, Nurses, Compounders and Thotties, not only in the Chingleput District Headquarters Hospital and the Government Stanley Hospital, Rayapuram—the two institutions with which I am connected as Member of Advisory Committee—but also in all the Government Hospitals I have visited, the staff is quite inadequate. It does not accord to the prescribed standard or is not proportionate to the attendance of in-patients and out-patients in the hospitals. This aspect should be scrutinized and steps taken to sanction adequate staff for all the hospitals where there is need for it. This will have to be done if the hospitals are to function efficiently and well. 3-30 p.m.

Sir, I have only one more point to refer to and that is with regard to the provision made for new establishment required under " Co-operation " for the Kanyakumari district. The entire staff working in the Kanyakumari district should have been taken over as in the case of other departments. I do not see why this special extra staff is sanctioned for this department alone. (Interruption.) I learn, Sir, from the hon. Member Mr. V. V. Ramaswami that there was no co-operative movement in the district till now. In that case there is need, I believe, for the extra staff.

Sir, these new areas in Kanyakumari and Shencottah are being governed by the Acts of the old Travancore-Cochin State. I hope the Government will take necessary steps to bring them also under the laws of the Madras State. We should integrate completely those areas and there is no use of having two systems of administration, one for the new areas and another for the old Madras State. I am sure that the Government will take action for the application of the Acts of the Madras State to the areas transferred to this State and that very early action would be taken in this behalf.

Lastly, I would implore, on behalf of this House, the Hon. the Finance Minister and invite his kind attention to the assurance given by him that a few Members of this House would be associated with the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee of the other House. (The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam : Already notice of motion has been given in this regard.) I am extremely thankful to the Hon. Minister that action has already been taken. We are grateful to him. We know the very keen interest he takes in these matters and we are thankful to him for having taken prompt action on the proposal. I hope it would be possible for getting the concerned rules amended before the end of the present session and also to get the new Members elected from this House to serve on the two Committees. We request you, Sir, to help us through in this.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as usual the hon. Member Mr. T. Purushotham has initiated the debate and to his credit I should say that without mercy he has exhausted all the points on all the Grants from ' a ' to ' z '. I would, however, refer to one or two points.

I would first refer to the Demand under Motor Vehicles Act Administration. As rightly pointed out by the hon. Member Sri Purushotham, I cannot understand why this additional sum is asked for, providing for the additional staff of Regional Transport Officer, Motor Vehicle Inspectors, etc. In spite of the fact that there has been a persistent demand both in this House and in the other House for reducing expenditure, the Government are increasing the expenditure day by day. I will refer to another aspect of the question. As far as the City of Madras is concerned, subject to correction by the Hon. the Minister for Finance, I feel that there has been no evasion of taxes on motor vehicles. I think the same rules apply to the mufassal also. I do not know whether it is the Police Department or any other department that collects the taxes. Whatever it is, the Government should justify this additional expenditure to meet the cost of new posts.

Sir, we find another item under " Heads of State, etc.", and that is item (iii), namely, General Administration—Secretariat and Attached Offices. It is explained that this additional provision is on account of additional staff sanctioned in some departments

to cope with the general increase in work. I think, if I understand it correctly, it is on the Secretariat level of the Government that additional staff is required. I am at a loss to understand how in spite of the fact that Malabar and South Kanara districts and also Kollegal taluk have gone away, there is still increased work so as to warrant additional staff in some departments. As a matter of fact, the work in the Secretariat should have decreased to the extent that these two districts and the Kollegal taluk have seceded from the Madras State. I think that the time has come for the present Government if possible—of course I know their difficulties and as they are busy with the coming elections, they may not have the time—or at least the coming Government to institute, as a first act, an overall survey of the whole administrative machinery and see whether there is scope for effecting economy here and there at least. If we consider the position in 1953, in spite of the fact that Andhra has separated from us and in spite of the fact that Malabar and South Kanara districts as also the Kollegal taluk have seceded from Madras State, it is a serious matter for consideration now whether we can afford the luxury of a large administrative machinery costing so much to the Government. Of course, I am not one of those who advocate that the staff should be retrenched, though retrenchment should be effected wherever necessary and possible, but still, the time has come for the Government to examine the whole aspect of this question, as a measure of economy, and decide where and when economy could be effected.

Another thing is that amounts are demanded under ' State Legislature ' to meet the cost of additional ballot boxes, indelible ink and other such things. Sir, so far as the last election was concerned, this indelible ink proved useless. I know and some of those who contested the election know including the Hon. the Revenue Minister—not that he was a party to it but simply he may know—many people immediately after voting came out and erased the ink mark. I have also heard people saying ' What of this ink mark? I have gone to the booth six times and voted '. Of course, I know that we have to learn from experience. But the fact remains that this ink proved useless and was good for nothing, except in the case of those persons who were honest and who wanted to retain the mark in their finger as a souvenir for having participated in the general elections. The Government should not rely on this ink entirely. They should devise some other method whereby impersonation of voters could be prevented. If they are going to rely entirely upon this ink mark only, then it is necessary that they should think of a better type of ink, a better variety of ink, without depending upon any old stock which will be practically of no use.

In this connexion, I may also point out to the Hon. the Minister for Finance, who is also in charge of Elections, that sometimes rules are passed that vehicles should be stopped at a distance of a furlong or so from the polling booth. But so far as

Muslim women are concerned, there is one difficulty in this. Most of the Muslim women observe Gosha and with great difficulty they are persuaded to go to the booth and record their votes —may be for the party in power or any other party, but invariably against them. If their bullock-carts are stopped at a distance, they have to be asked to walk the distance to the booth. Very often they are unwilling to walk and, therefore, go home without recording their votes. Therefore, this matter has to be examined by the Hon. the Minister for Finance who is also in charge of Elections.

3-40 p.m. As far as the N.G.Os. are concerned, they know full well that the immediate financial help given to them by the Government is very small. But the N.G.Os. have got in plenty the sympathy of all. The sympathy is there on the part of the Government, on the part of the Members of the Legislative Council and on the part of the members of the Legislative Assembly. Of course, we do appreciate the difficulties of the Government of Madras in this matter. With the present meagre resources of our Government, they cannot do anything more although their idea is to give something more than what they have given. The other day I read a report of the speech of the Union Minister for Finance (Sri T. T. Krishnamachari) in which it was stated that there was a proposal before the Government of India to give an increase of Rs. 12 in the salary of all those drawing a sum of Rs. 100 and below per mensem. He has also, it appears, stated that if there are proposals from the State Governments in this behalf, the Central Government will look into them very favourably and do all that is possible. This statement, coming as it does from that high authority, shows that the Government of India themselves feel that our low-paid staff and others are getting really very meagre emoluments. The cost of living index now has gone up by five times what it was in pre-war days. The grant of a dearness allowance of Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 or even Rs. 18 will not adequately help the N.G.Os. Therefore, the Hon. the Minister for Finance of this Government should take up the matter with the Central Government and use his good offices and influence to see that we do get adequate help from them so that we might give our N.G.Os. an allowance of Rs. 17 instead of Rs. 5 which we have given them from 1st November 1956. I am sure that among the many acts of service that he is rendering to the people, this act of giving an allowance of Rs. 17 to the N.G.Os. will be the greatest. The Finance Minister will have the good wishes of these N.G.Os. for this one act of service. The grant of this allowance to the N.G.Os. has nothing to do with the forthcoming elections. I know the motive of the Government, which has got nothing whatever to do with the propaganda that is carried on outside.

The hon. Member Sri T. Purushotham has referred to the sum of Rs. 5 lakhs spent on the visit of high personalities to the State of Madras. We are really proud that in spite of the fact that Madras State has become diminished in size and population, the

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City of Madras, representing as it does the culture of the South has not lost its importance in any way. All eminent men who visit our country do make it a point to visit our City. Sri T. Purushotham asked, 'Why not transfer this expenditure to the Central Government? It is on their account that we are expending so much'. If such a course is possible, we will be too happy to have this small amount returned to us by the Central Government. But might I say, Sir, on this occasion that there is very great scope for reducing expenditure even under this head of account? We were previously blaming the Britishers that whenever big men came to our City, their (Britishers') one act was to fill the road and the approaches also fully with military police, etc. Of course, we do not want to take risks. Security measures have to be taken and we have to be careful. We have to take extra care and caution. I do not deny all this. But the way in which a huge army of men is brought in and paraded is a bit, I consider, going too far. I think with the existing Police Force in the City of Madras and with some additional Police from Chingleput district, we can very well meet the demand. But, unfortunately, this is not done. Very recently there was the visit of Dalai Lama and Panchen Lama to our City. I am told that a number of District Superintendents of Police, Deputy Superintendents of Police, and a good contingent of policemen from all the districts were brought to the City of Madras. At what cost? Their travelling allowance, daily allowance, etc., would have cost much. Therefore, it is no wonder that so much money has been spent by the Government in connection with the visits to our City of great personalities. Further, the work of the police in the districts is very much affected by the drafting of a large number of men for work in the City of Madras. We have got in the City of Madras the Special Armed Constabulary, the Reserve Police, and also the Malabar Special Police. I do not know why we should have a luxury of so much Police Force in the City when great personalities visit it. I request the Hon. the Minister for Finance to examine this question. Even this morning, as I was entering the Assembly Chamber in Mount Road, I saw a huge Police Force. It appears that there was some talk of procession by a group of men. To deal with this procession, a huge Police Force is being stationed near the Assembly building. This is something novel. With the minimum Police Force we can deal with processions. I find that the tendency is developing nowadays among the Police Force to make a big demonstration. I do not say that they should take risks by employing only a few men. There is the Armed Force in the City itself to deal with emergencies. I hope the Government will in future see that only th minimum Police Force is employed and will not have the luxury or a huge Police Force for these small things, unless it be for the purpose of making a demonstration or an exhibition of the Police Force.

Then, Sir, I come to the question of purchase of new motor vehicles in replacement of condemned ones. This and their

maintenance charges have contributed to the increase in expenditure under three heads. I think a decade ago there might have been a few vehicles maintained by the Government. But now I do not know the number of vehicles maintained. The Hon. the Finance Minister will please tell us the number. This very subject was touched upon by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition on the floor of the House and he said that an enormous amount was being spent on motor vehicles maintained by the Government in the various departments. What is more? While one may be very careful in regard to one's own vehicle, I am sorry to say that the same amount of personal attention and care are not bestowed by the officers on the vehicles maintained by the Government. I am told that a sum of one crore of rupees is being spent on the maintenance of these various vehicles, viz., motor cars, jeeps, and lorries. If we take an overall view of the vehicles maintained by the Government, we will see that a very huge amount is being spent on them. The amount will be between a crore of rupees and two crores of rupees. Money is being spent on keeping the vehicles in good condition. Sir, after all, the officials may not be very careful about these vehicles, because they belong to the Government. They do not put the vehicles to the minimum use possible. They use them as much as they can. They think that there is the Government to pay the bill for repairs, if any. This is the attitude. I ask the Hon. the Finance Minister to tell us whether he is satisfied that all the vehicles in the various departments are used by the officials purely for official purposes. I think not. Many a high official has a car purchased by himself at his own cost or with the advance made to him by Government. Officials are paid Rs. 75 or Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 as the case may be as car allowance. I dare say—I am not making any charge against the officials now—that in many cases the Government cars are put to private use by the officer or his family. Officials should set a better example to the public. If there is any urgent necessity for a Government car, the official can use it. Many of our officials have their own cars but they keep them in their garage and use the Government cars for their private purposes also. Many a time the battery of their cars is either run down or requires recharging. They use then the Government cars. I am sure the Government will examine this question and see that the expenditure is reduced. There is great scope for reduction in expenditure. I am sure the Government will effect reduction in expenditure if they exercise proper check on the maintenance of these vehicles.

Then, Sir, I come to Education. There are too many experts on education, we see. I could never be so foolhardy as to enter this field. But the Hon. the Minister for Finance has demanded certain sums for meeting the requirements of increased staff in the Government colleges consequent on the reorganized scheme adopted by the University of Madras. Sir, I know too many promises are
3-50 p.m. expected and are made by our Ministers. Too many demands have been made on them, and many a time they do not even remember the promises they made. If we ask them about the promises, they

naturally try to recollect the promises. If I remember aright, on a previous occasion the Hon. the Minister for Finance was kind enough to give an assurance that he was quite alive to the difficulties which the private colleges, particularly second grade colleges, in the State of Madras had to face consequent on the reorganization scheme adopted by the University of Madras. I am sure the Hon. Minister will examine the matter and help the second grade colleges. Too many colleges have come up in different parts of the State and we are all very happy about it. But private resources are very limited and the authorities of these colleges find it very difficult to collect contributions from private parties. Therefore, naturally, they have to look to the Government for what little help they can render to them and their thanks are due to the Hon. the Minister for Education for his invaluable help to them.

Last time, the Hon. the Minister for Finance, while replying to the discussion on the Supplementary Demands, gave a picture of the great work being done in our State in the field of small-scale industries. We know that the possibilities of establishing heavy and medium industries are very limited, partly due to lack of resources and partly due to the fact that capital, as far as the South is concerned, has become very shy. Even granting that there is some private capital, the heavy incidence of taxation which the Hon. the Revenue Minister went on imposing has depleted all the resouces. Therefore, capital in the State of Madras is very shy. In the circumstances, it is in the fitness of things that the Government of Madras have themselves taken up a lot of schemes for the spread of small-scale industries and that they have done it in the proper way. First, they have established some Governmental centres where training is given to those who are in the trade. After the speech of the Hon. the Minister for Finance the other day, I made it a point to visit that boot and leather factory somewhere near Perambur. I really felt happy to see that with such small capital and within so short a period of time, the factory had been brought up. Production is of a very high order. What is more, I was told by the persons on the spot that the factory could face any competition in the local market. It is a very good thing that with Government help a small scheme has been put into operation. What is more, it gives employment to 50 or 100 people immediately with scope for further expansion. Besides, a good stuff is being manufactured and brought into the market. I would like to know what the policy of the Government in that regard is. Are they going to maintain those units themselves or are they going to allow those units to be run with private capital either by industrial co-operatives or by other agencies? As I have said on previous occasions, the Government should do their best to popularize these units so that private enterprise may come into the field. As has been said here and outside, the only chance for us to do something in this state of affairs is to build up these small-scale industries which will go a long way to provide employment to many a man and woman in our State.

The Government of India have decided to transfer the administration of the Employment Exchanges to the State Governments. I know that even in previous years the Madras Government had a share in its administration to the extent that a particular Minister was in charge of it. But still these Exchanges were run purely by the Central Government. Now, they have been transferred entirely to the State Government. I would like to know whether the Government of India are bearing any share or proportionate share of the expenditure. I am not levelling a charge against these Exchanges if I say that there has been a feeling that these centres have not been working as satisfactorily as they are expected to do. There has also been a feeling that while sending candidates in the waiting list to the different departments, they did not conform to the rules and regulations. Some candidate who might have registered his name very recently might have been pushed up as against others. This might or might not have happened. But there is such a feeling among the people. However, as these Exchanges have now come under the control of the State Government, I hope the Madras Government will examine the matter and remedy the defects, if any. If there are no defects, I have nothing to say in the matter. However, this sort of feeling is prevailing among the unemployed people who are in large numbers in our State.

Under the Road Transport Schemes, we are happy that a good deal is being attempted to be done by the Transport Department in the City of Madras. The conditions are not so bad as they were formerly. However, there is scope for further improvement. I do not want to minimise the importance of what is attempted to be done. New vehicles are put on the road. New routes are opened. Still, the peak-hour traffic problem has not been solved. No doubt, certain measures have been adopted by the Transport Department to tackle this problem. The people are asked at the starting points to stand in queues and tickets are issued earlier so that they may get into the bus when it comes. It has relieved the congestion to some extent. But things are not still satisfactory. There is scope for improvement. The other day the hon. Member Sri Purushotham was asking why sunshades were not put up at the various bus stops. The Hon. Minister replied that the Government were contemplating the erection of sunshades at 25 or 26 bus stops. It is the misfortune of many who are not owning their cars or who may have once owned cars but not now to stand without the sunshade in summer as well as in the rainy season. As the Government have nationalized the bus transport and it has come to stay, there is no point at all in depending on public philanthropy as was suggested very liberally by the hon. Member Sri Purushotham. It is the duty of the Government or the Corporation, whoever it be, to provide for these things. The public in the City of Madras will feel very happy if these amenities are provided for them and if they have a perfect bus service. I hope the Government will examine this question with reference to the population in the City which has gone up by hundred per cent in the

course of a decade. From 8 lakhs it has gone up to 16 lakhs. A lot of people are visiting the Madras City. The tramway has gone. Bus transport has come to stay. Therefore, funds permitting, the Government will put the necessary number of buses on the road. I want to make one suggestion in this connection. There are some areas where the smaller type of buses may ply. There may be some loss on that account, but there may be some routes where there is not such heavy traffic. These are matter of detail which, I hope, the department concerned will examine.

There is a reference to the amount required to meet the cost of transport services in the Kanyakumari district taken over by the Government. I would like to know from the Hon. the Minister for Finance how many vehicles the Government were able to get from the neighbouring State after partition. How many buses are being run now and what is the mileage covered? What amount are we getting either monthly or daily? What is the experience of that State in regard to nationalized transport? This may all help our Government in outlining their future policy. However, as we are quite ignorant of it, it would be well for the Government if not now, at least sometime later, to enlighten the public on these matters.

Thank you very much, Sir.

* SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the Members of the Legislature Committee on the White Paper on Education for the unanimous decisions that they have arrived at. That Committee consisted of eminent educationists, public men and leaders of parties. As the decisions have been unanimous and as the Hon. the Minister for Education has also agreed to the decisions arrived at, I hope those decisions will be implemented as early as possible. 4 p.m.

The next noteworthy feature is the Government contribution to the Saraswathi Vidyalaya Union, Poona. It is a happy augury that our Government have contributed a sum of Rs. 10,000 to that institution which caters to the needs of the children of our people serving there. This is not the first time that our Government have made such block grants. I think this is the second time. I had occasion to visit the Madrasi Higher and Secondary School and its branch at Lodi Colony at Delhi. That branch has a very good building. The Government of Madras granted a sum of Rs. 1 lakh to that institution. The number of children studying there is something like 2,500. It is a staggering figure indeed. At one time, those children were housed in tents even in cold winter. They had no rooms, but only tents. Now, they are housed in pucca buildings. I have had occasion to visit the Saraswathi Vidyalaya at Nagpur and the National High School at Calcutta. In all these institutions, a large number of our children are studying. Such block grants by our Government to these institutions will certainly create good understanding between our State and other States. It will also make our children studying in those States feel

that after all, the Madras State has not neglected them. This feeling will creep into their minds. Just as we extend help to them, I am sure the other States will also extend the same help to the children of other States studying here. There are many Gujerathi, Bengalee and Marathi children studying here. I am quite sure those States will also try to help the institutions here which are catering to the needs of the children coming from those States.

I would like to remind the Hon. the Minister for Education that it is time for him to fulfil the assurance that he has given on many occasions. He has stated that he would extend the pension scheme to other categories of teachers also. I hope that during this session he will make the announcement. Before the session concludes, he may announce his decision so that this benefit may be extended to all categories of teachers.

There is a growing recognition of the need, on the part of both the Central Government and the State Government, for removing the disparity in allowances and pay scales between the State and the Central Government servants. It is a happy augury. I should say that this disparity should be removed as early as possible. If this is done, it would give contentment to a large body of Non-Gazetted Officers in the State.

I would like to refer to another matter. All these years, whenever there was any addition in dearness allowance, it automatically applied to the servants and employees of local bodies and to teachers also. Originally, it was given at the rate of 17½ per cent of the pay. Then there was an addition of Rs. 8 and Rs. 6. When these sums were added, automatically they were applied to teachers in aided institutions. Now, as pointed out by the hon. Member Sri Purushotham, the Government Order has not been issued to the effect that those persons are also eligible to draw the recent increase in this allowance. I hope it will soon be done.

Just as the local Government are trying to remove the disparity in pay scales as between their employees and those of the Central Government, they should also see that the disparity in pay scales and allowances as between the teachers under local bodies and teachers in aided institutions is removed. They may even grant dearness allowance. But, what about house rent allowance? Teachers in district board and municipal schools get the house rent allowance whereas the teachers in aided institutions do not get the same. If at all it is given, it is taken into account for purposes of grant as such. That is all. I request the Hon. Minister to kindly extend this benefit to teachers in aided schools also.

As regards medical relief, whenever the Government give any relief to the Non-Gazetted Officers, they may please extend the same to all the teachers, whether they are serving under local bodies or in aided schools. All are doing essential service.

24th December 1956] [Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan]

I now come to the provision made for the introduction of bifurcated courses. It is stated that under the Second Plan, 180 courses will be introduced. This is the first State to introduce these courses. At the rate of 36 courses a year or so, it is stated those courses will be introduced. If they want to introduce these courses, what the department should see is that they select the schools either in the month of March or April. At present, on an application made, they are selected. We do not know on what basis the selection is made. It may be stated that any procedure is likely to be criticised. That is not the point. They must evolve some procedure, and it is better that that procedure is followed. This procedure must also be made known to the institutions. At present, this selection is made and communicated only in the month of October or November. The result is that the institutions that are selected find it very difficult to introduce that course in the academic year, and some of them have expressed their unwillingness and inability to introduce the courses. This has caused considerable difficulty for the students. If the selection is only notified in April or March, the institutions will be able to advertise for the necessary teaching personnel and they will be able to purchase the necessary equipment. They are not able to do this now, as they come to know of the selection only in November or December. I earnestly plead with the Hon. Minister to see that these selected schools are given sufficient notice, in March or April so that the necessary personnel and equipment could be secured. There are six bifurcated courses. About 770 candidates out of 2,057 are stated to have offered the Secretarial course. This course is not popular. The Government should not be carried away by the number. The reason is that shorthand, typewriting and book-keeping are taught in English whereas all other subjects are taught through the Tamil medium. Either we must teach all the subjects in English or we must teach those subjects also in Tamil. Otherwise, the boys find it very difficult. Of those who have taken to this course, not more than 30 to 40 per cent are declared eligible for college courses. If my suggestion in this regard is accepted, more students will come forward to take up the course and the percentage of passes will also increase. In the White Paper, figures are given in respect of the next popular course, viz., Engineering and Pre-Technological course. It is a very good course. The boys who take to this course are a little above the average. But, there is one difficulty. It is very difficult to get L.E.Es. and L.M.Es. After serving for a a month or so, they apply for some of the posts in the Railways advertised in the dailies and leave their jobs and go away leaving us in the lurch. If the Government will only appoint a small Committee to find out how these bifurcated courses are working in these institutions, they will find that some of them are not at all working satisfactorily. Because, there is no properly qualified teaching personnel available in them, and sufficient equipment is not found. As a result of these, they are not working properly.

Sir, teaching is given as one of the bifurcated courses. It has been stated in the White Paper that it is this course ' teaching ',

that is given the poorest encouragement. At the beginning of the Fourth Form, the student is asked to decide whether he would take up teaching. I would like to remind the Hon. Minister of a circular that was issued seven years ago that grown-up students should be persuaded to take up teaching. They will be only dullards. If you want dullards for the profession, that suggestion may be all right. That should not be the criterion for selecting persons for the teaching profession. That will not make it popular. Many institutions do not have this course. It is not popular. I think in the State of Madras perhaps only seven or eight have this course. The course may be dropped and the money spent on this course may be spent on some other useful and popular course.

I would next like to refer to the provision of increased and improved facilities for the teaching of science courses. Many schools do not have these facilities. Some people make a donation and some of them some building. That is all. No provision whatsoever is made for equipment, laboratory or library. Such institutions do need the help of the Government. I do not know how the selection is made. Some of the schools do not have adequate buildings. In some of the libraries, books are not properly arranged and kept, as there is not sufficient accommodation. A grant of Rs. 5,000 is made for the purchase of library books. The list of books is given. But the books mentioned in the list are not available. It is stated that if those books are not available, with the permission of the District Educational Officer, other books may be purchased. Even those other books are not easily available. There should be some indication as to what books should be purchased. As it is, books not required are purchased since it is feared that the grants will lapse, if books are not purchased during the year. Now I am assured the grants will be current for the next year also. So, let the Department leave it to the discretion of the Headmasters so that only useful books may be purchased. In the case of "Science", we do not get the apparatus required. On the last occasion, I pointed out that most of the schools purchased apparatus required for Intermediate and B.Sc. classes. It is not easy to get from local firms the apparatus required by the schools. So, there must be a long-range plan of two or three years so that the grant may be well utilized.

4-10 p.m.

Then, I shall come to the ensuing elections. The services of teachers will be requisitioned for service during elections. That cannot but be. But what happens is that these teachers are not paid the election allowances as quickly as possible. In some places, teachers did not get their election allowances for two or three years after the last elections. Members from Malabar were making frequent references to this matter when they were here. So, I would request the Government to see that teachers get their election allowances as quickly after the elections as possible. Then, the teachers in aided schools in Salem came up to me and said that they were paid last time less than teachers in District Board schools

were paid. I do not know how far the allegation is true. But they complained that they were paid different rates and less than the District Board school teachers. I would request the Government to look into this matter also.

Next, I would touch upon the services in the Education Department. The other day, the hon. Member Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliar referred to the inordinate delay in confirming the District Educational Officers. Many of them have not been confirmed as yet. I am glad, however, that steps are being taken to confirm them now. It is a good thing that justice is done, even though a bit late. One thing I would request the Hon. the Minister for Education kindly to look into. He will correct me, if I am wrong. One District Educational Officer has put in a service of six years. The biennial increment is thirty rupees and this officer has earned three increments. Since he has been confirmed only very recently, he is paid Rs. 320 in the grade of Rs. 230–700, without making him eligible for the arrears of pay due to him. In the case of officers in Andhra State, all of them are paid arrears of pay due to them on confirmation. So, the District Educational Officers have a very legitimate right to demand arrears of pay. I would request the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education to see that arrears of pay are paid to them.

Lastly, I have been pleading for the secondary grade teachers all this time. Last year or so, my friend Mr. G. Krishnamoorthi moved a resolution to the effect that there should be no disparity in the scales of pay of teachers. The Hon. the Ministers for Education was kind enough to say that he would try to remove the disparity. I know it will take some time to do so. However, I would once again emphasise the case of B.T.'s for First Grade scale which is Rs. 175–240. They should be given a higher scale—at least a third of them so that they may not get stagnated at Rs. 175. Similarly, the secondary grade teachers also should not stagnate when they reach the maximum of rupees 90 in the grade Rs. 45–90. For them to reach the maximum it takes 20 years. Here also, at least a third of them should be allowed to go higher up. Otherwise, they will become sluggish. Put it at Rs. 90–120 or Rs. 130 for these men. It will be all right. That will provide them the necessary incentive for further work and it will not also cost the Government much.

In conclusion, I would request the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education to extend the pension scheme to all categories of teachers.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to make one or two observations on the Demands for Grants for further expenditure. So far as the open market loans of 1956 are concerned, the issue price was Rs. 99–12–0. What happened was, at the time of the issue of the loans, many people who subscribed raised loans from the banks for the purposes. But after the issue was over and the loans were subscribed to, the issue price was reduced to Rs. 97–12–0. This caused a great difficulty for

the people who subscribed to these loans by applying for loans from the banks. When the banks demanded their money back, they found very great difficulty in arranging to pay the money back. When the Reserve Bank was approached, it said it could not do anything in the matter of keeping the issue price at a certain level, not very much lower than the issue price. After a good deal of correspondence, it purchased a few of the securities and then kept quiet. As the open market loans are likely to be issued in future also—the Hon. the Minister for Finance indicated this when he referred to the deficit in the Budget—I would request the Hon. the Minister for Finance to make certain arrangements with the Reserve Bank to see that the issue price does not go below a certain level in order that the general public may be helped. I think that can be done by previous arrangement with the Reserve Bank. This will help many people who do not have ready money to subscribe but who raise loans from the banks and subscribe. I would request the Government to examine my suggestion sympathetically.

Then, Sir, I find that the Government propose to get manufactured 1,20,000 additional steel ballot boxes in connection with the coming General Elections. I am happy that some firms will be given the order to manufacture these boxes. I wish some firms here get the order. (The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam : Indian firms.)

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Cannot Government start an industry?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : I would like to call this ' 1957 General Elections Steel Boxes Industry '. It is a nice thing. But I want it to be started here in South India, though not in Madras. I understand they have been purchased. But I want to know whether the people of our State have been given the orders to manufacture these boxes.

4-20 p.m. I now come to the question of dearness allowance. Two things were mentioned, one a statement by the Union Finance Minister that the Centre would be prepared to give Rs. 12 for each State Government servant and that it was a human problem. We were also told that a committee had been appointed to go into the question of removing the disparity in the scale of pay of Central and State Government servants. That was mentioned in the newspapers. If it is true, it would be better if the Report of that committee is expedited. If that sum of Rs. 12 each promised by the Centre is given to the Non-Gazetted officers of this State, that would practically solve the problem of the N.G.Os. Then we shall have a happy and contented service.

The hon. Member Dr. Sreenivasan has said that an enquiry should be made into the working of the Barnard Institute of Radiology before that institution is upgraded, which upgrading is

now under contemplation. Sometime ago, if I remember correctly, the Hon. the Revenue Minister who is also the Minister for Health, assured us that such an enquiry would be made and that the whole thing would be put in order. It would be better if things are set right and the foundation is set neat before the upgrading of that institution into an All-India institution for postgraduate study in radiology. Because the Revenue Minister is here now, I am making this plea. (The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu : The enquiry was asked for not about the necessity of upgrading that institution.) I know that. I only plead that the foundation may be set right after making an enquiry so that the upgrading may be made smooth, and the institution set on a proper footing.

The hon. Member Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan has congratulated the Government and the Hon. the Education Minister on having given a grant of Rs. 10,000 to the Saraswathi Vidyalaya Union. I would also like to congratulate the Hon. the Minister for Education on having sanctioned a recurring grant of Rs. 2,500 to the Visveshvaranand Vedic Research Institute, Hoshiarpur, towards the publication of the book " Vedic Concordance ". The grant is to be continued for five years from 1956–57. I was surprised to read this. That institution has been doing very valuable research into our ancient scriptures, and my joy was very great on finding that the Government had come forward with a grant for that institution. On this occasion I cannot but make the remark that this is so because the Hon. the Minister for Education is Sri C. Subramaniam. I cannot but express that feeling. Had it not been for him, institutions like these would not have received such grants. Had I known that grants would be forthcoming for such institutions doing research in Sanskrit, I would have applied for some grant for some similar research institutions with which I am connected. But that is only by the way. I am very glad that that Vedic Research Institute has been given that grant. It has been rendering yeoman service for the development of our ancient Sanskrit literature.

I want to mention one thing lastly. Something ought to be done to check the inflation in prices that is still going on. We had recently a symposium in which a number of economists took part. They mentioned that this inflationary trend was noticeable not only in this State but in all the States of the Union. Last year in this State we were complaining about the fall in agricultural prices. But this year, peculiarly enough the prices of all commodities, rice, tippili, etc., have risen high. The domestic expenditure has trebled itself. The economists say that one reason for this is the increased circulation of money on account of the Five-Year Plan and the large amounts spent on improving the economic status of our people. The second reason is that the purchasing power of the people has increased. This inflationary trend has got to be checked. Even now, in spite of the existence of Fair Price Shops, rice is being sold at Rs. 1–1–0 per measure.

People are buying at that rate. Black-marketing is still there. Even in T.U.C.S. branches, we do not find that the quality of rice supplied is quite good. The Hon. the Minister for Agriculture has stated that one reason for this is the buying of rice openly in Tanjore by outsiders.

I had a talk with the President of the T.U.C.S. During the symposium we had, he told me that people were anxious to have polished rice and that polished rice came from Nellore. Some
4-30 p.m. years ago, our people used to take " Ragi ". But now that practice has been given up. Our people generally insist in a large measure on rice and things made out of rice, like idlis, etc. Many of our people consume only rice. Cannot the State Government bring in a regulation by which the use of ragi as before could be popularised? After all, ragi has nutritive value and also produces sustaining power, especially for the labourers who have to work hard. That is a suggestion which I would like the Government to consider so as to see that the use of ragi is popularised and the use of rice is reduced correspondingly. Of course, our people are mostly rice-eaters; in the North they are wheat-eaters; wheat contains more protein and produces a greater sustaining power. Most of our people, the higher classes, the middle classes and the upper middle classes do take only rice which produces very little sustaining power. (The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu : It has productive power.) (Laughter.) Is that so? (The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu : Yes. It is quite correct.) It is better that the Government investigate into this matter of supplying ragi. Even though production and supply of rice may be greater, since the demand is much greater, there is difficulty. Therefore, it must be due to this that the price of rice is going up. That is so far as rice is concerned. As for the other articles of food, I do not know whether this test will apply. But it is a matter which I feel that our Government should look into. Otherwise, all the schemes will really be not appreciated by our people, whose plight is to wait till 2 o'clock and 3 o'clock in the hot sun at the Fair Price Shops for supply of rice. This is something very difficult for the people to put up with. Therefore, I make bold to make this suggestion to the Government to consider a scheme for the purpose of seeing that the rice supplied is good, that ragi or some other article of food also is supplied to be supplemented with rice and also that the taste for polished rice is checked. Some regulation or advocacy of it to our people is necessary. Thank you, Sir.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member should finish his speech by 4-45 p.m. The Hon. Minister will begin his reply at 4-45 p.m.

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I went through the pages of the Detailed Supplementary Estimates of the Demands for Grants that we are considering now. It pained me very much to find in one of the pages that huge allotments had been made for the construction of buildings under ' Education '

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and 'Health'. So, I cannot but make the remark that I had occasion to make more than once on the sacred floor of this House that our Government have more faith in brick and mortar than in men and minds.

On page 34 of the Supplementary Estimates, we find a provision of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs for buildings other than residential buildings. There is separately a provision for residential buildings and it must be there. But with regard to the provision of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs for schools and hospitals, I think we are not doing the right thing. When we have got people homeless, near Angappa Naicken street, round about the High Court and on the bank of the Cooum, is it proper that for each building that has been indicated there we should spend Rs. 2 lakhs, Rs. 13 lakhs, Rs. 8 lakhs and so on? It may be a provision for additional beds in hospitals; it may be a provision for additional blocks in schools or laboratories. But is it proper on our part to think of these buildings when our people are poor and homeless? In spite of the various efforts that this Government have been making and in spite of all their schemes during the last five years, they have not been able to provide all these poor people with homes. That being so, is it proper on our part to spend such huge amounts on these buildings? Should we spend so much, when we have not been able to tackle the beggar problem, to give them food and shelter? What use is there for them of our Swaraj, if even after ten years of Swaraj, we could not solve their problem? Are they not our brothers? Do we not proclaim that they are our brothers? What have the Government done for them? Have we a list of disabled beggars in this State? What relief measures have been taken by the Government? Is it proper to leave it to the mercy of some philanthropists and other institutions to take care of them? Have we statistics about them? When such is the case, is it proper for us to waste so much money on mere buildings? Is it, after all, necessary to have huge, massive buildings for our schools? I know that the expenditure on these items has been curtailed by the Government to a certain extent. But the question is whether they cannot curtail the expenditure on these items to the extent to which our country and the state of affairs in this State demand. Is it necessary to have huge, massive buildings for our schools where we only want some sheds with fresh air freely flowing for the students? Is it necessary to have massive buildings for our hospitals where the patients want pure air? Would it not be sufficient for the time being to locate all these in thatched sheds and think of massive buildings when our finances improve and to see that each hungry stomach is fed?

Sir, with regard to education in particular, I find that there is a provision for bifurcated courses. Sir, this bifurcated course has been there for the last several years and one hon. Member who spoke before me talked at length about this. I say, "Have the Government evolved any scheme at an All-India level or at least at the State level?" It is 10 years since we got independence and then

it is seven years since we gave to ourselves our Constitution. Article 45 of the Constitution states that within 10 years we should endeavour to bring all children to the school. What is our scheme? We framed a scheme and we gave it up because ' people opposed it '. We threw it overboard on account of opposition and not because the scheme was not good. At this rate, can we do any constructive work? In those days, in 1916 or 1917 my brother G. Srinivasan organised the Congress movement in Tiruchirappalli. All the people began to oppose him. Still he was recognised as the Tilak of Tiruchirappalli. Our own people, the so-called English educated people opposed the national sentiments and our national agitation. If the Congress had not begun to educate the people and if they had withdrawn their national activities fearing opposition, can we call ourselves free citizens today? Therefore, the Government should not have withdrawn the scheme on account of opposition. The Government ought to have implemented the scheme. Have we got any other scheme now? After about 10 years of Swaraj, we are now saying certain things about education and we have appointed certain committees. It is still in the stage of discussion as to whether elementary education should be for five years or seven years or eight years, what name should be given to education at each stage, what the duration of each stage should be, and so on. We do not have schemes so that all our requirements may be met. The bifurcated courses should lead to other technical courses later on. There is the Engineering Course. But are the children turned out guaranteed admission in the polytechnics and are the children admitted to the polytechnics later on absorbed in the various Government Engineering and Industrial departments? No; there is no link between the different stages. Government seem to think, ' Let us have schemes for just introducing a number of courses in a number of institutions.' That is not the way to solve the problem of education. We ought to have linked the problems one with the other. There should be no compartmental system. All these courses should be designed having in view the chain of processes involved, namely, from the bifurcated course to polytechnics, from the polytechnics to higher Engineering courses and finally absorption in the various Government departments and industrial enterprises. Have we statistics of our requirements on an All-India basis? Or at least at the State level? Do we have statistics as to how many doctors we want, how many engineers we want, how many statesmen we want and so on? Have we got institutions based on our requirements? If we are just blindly starting schools and other things not according to the requirements of the country, but according to the pressure brought upon the Government, are we doing the right thing? Thus, even after 10 years of Swaraj, we have no definite educational schemes. Have we got a scheme? Do we try, according to the particular scheme and statistics arrived at, to cater to the needs of the various citizens in our democratic Republic? We are not doing that. Without any scheme, we are trying to help the people. I do not know where this kind of education will

4-40 p.m.

lead us to. We are overproducing certain things. There is the unemployment of men trained in the engineering line. There are schemes in our country for which their training is not suited. They go to foreign countries for training. When they return to this country, they find that the training they have undergone is not useful here. The machinery that they want cannot be obtained by India with her present finances. Without any scheme on an All-India basis, we are proceeding with our policy of education. What prevents our State Government from undertaking a scheme at the State level? In regard to education, have we analysed this point? After all, we are trying to produce individuals who will be mentally fit and physically fit and who will also become persons of integrity, honesty, and character. This is the aim of education. Are we trying to achieve this aim? What about physical education? In our schools, we have got something called physical training that goes in the name of physical education. I have been demanding that the physical training classes that are conducted in so many secondary schools, which have no playgrounds, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. should be abolished. What steps have the Government taken to see that boys are not put to physical strain under the noon-day sun in a tropical place like the Madras State? This kind of physical training should be done away with. This spoils the health of the boys. It does not improve their physique.

Then, Sir, I come to the question of hotels. One has simply to go round Madras to see the horrible practices adopted in the hotels. Are we living in a *nagaram* or *naragam*? We see so many in the hotels sip the cup with their lips. This has become the fashion also. By adopting this practice, our children are exposing themselves to serious risks. I have been submitting to Government to impose restrictions on the way of distribution of edibles in hotels. I have suggested the use of leaves and paper cups in hotels, but the Government say that it is not possible. I have been urging the substitution of leaves for plates, but the ex-Minister for Health said that leaves could not be had in such large numbers. We are adopting certain artificial practices in hotels. We are creating taste in our young boys for hotels.

What about the physical improvement of our students? Is the physical development of our boys confined to the schools only? What about the outside atmosphere? Do not hotels affect their health? The Government want to build additional blocks in hospitals. New diseases are creeping in and we are giving new names to them. How do these diseases creep in? Are these due to poverty, ignorance, and other causes? Not at all. How can these come up suddenly when we are trying to remove poverty and ignorance? They are all due to the bad system recognised by the Government in the name of hotels. I do not have objection to hotels as such. But let us have in these hotels paper cups for use. Let us have leaves instead of plates. Our children, even if they sip the cups, will not get any contamination if paper cups are used.

Then, Sir, what about the mental education that we give? We stuff in so much of unwanted matter and overlapping matter and also things that are anti-national. Have we reformed the content of education? When we are so earnest about setting an example to other States in many matters, we should set an example to other States in respect of the content of education also and reform education in such a way that anti-national elements in history and other lessons are taken away.

In regard to moral instruction, the Government say that we are a secular State and there is a fear that religious education may bring about communal tension. But what do we find now? We find little children actually having small pamphlets inside their books which distract their attention very much. The work of the teacher is made very difficult. He has not only to teach, but also to create the background for receiving education. The Hon. the Education Minister is very sincere about the reform of cinemas, and he has given expression to his ideas. What is the next step that we should take? Though the Central Government have got powers of censorship, we are really educating our boys here. Are cinemas educating the boys or are we educating them? How can the work of the teacher be effective in the face of these cinemas and pamphlets? The expenditure on constructing hospitals and providing too many beds will be avoided if really the civic consciousness in the people is roused sufficiently. Just a visit by any Hon. Minister bewteen 6 a.m. and 8 a.m. to any small street in Triplicane will show how dirty it is and in how many places on the pavements the children have committed nuisance. What are we to do if the sanitary officers do not pay attention to this? I submitted to the Hon. the Minister for Health (Sri A. B. Shetty who has now gone to Mysore) that the nuisance committed by people on the Cauvery banks brought about cholera after rains. He said that it was not known how the first cholera germs were produced. If we do not attend to these matters and if we do not have a long-range programme for health and education, we will not be doing the right thing.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for having given me this opportunity to speak.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am really grateful to hon. Members for taking a lively interest even in the Supplementary Demands. Some of the speeches are very instructive, and they were made by hon. Members after a thorough study of the subjects in the supplementary estimates. One important point which has been made by many hon. Members is with reference to the increase in staff in the Secretariat and the various departments. As a matter of fact, this subject has been exercising my mind for a pretty long time. Every time there was some reorganization of the State in the officing, I was hopnig that after the reorganization, it would be possible to look into the various departments and find out whether there had been unnecessary growth in the strength of the departments. But I confess

that it has not been possibe to do it in any original manner. I have been thinking over this subject for a long time, and I may tell the House that it is my intention to have a scrutiny of the strength of the departments as early as possible and at the highest level possible. First, we have to take the Secretariat departments and the Board of Revenue. If we are able to set an example in these two important departments, then I am sure we would be able to carry out the necessary retrenchment in the districts. This process is bound to take some time. Unfortunately, elections are very much now in the minds of the people. Therefore, it has not been possible to take immediate steps. My own view is that it is only a small Cabinet Committee that can look into the affairs of the Secretariat and the Board of Revenue and that there would not be any use in asking the officials to look into the question. But I am hoping that it would be possible to take concrete steps at a very early date.

Then, Sir, one other matter has been referred to, that is, the number of motor vehicles now in the possession of the Government officials and Government departments. The vehicles are growing in number. Naturally, the expenditure on their maintenance and the running charges are mounting up. Apart from the maintenance charges, the question was posed by the hon. Member Sri Raza Khan whether these vehicles were being put to their legitimate use or whether they were used for other purposes also. I am not prepared to say that they are being put only to legitimate use. When we provide Government vehicles, certainly it will be too much to expect that they would be used only for official purposes and that they would not be used for purposes other than official, particularly when the vehicles are not expected to be used for official purposes throughout the day or throughout the month or throughout the year.

That being so, a certain amount of abuse in these matters is inevitable. But, what I am more concerned with is the careless maintenance of these vehicles. When I say that, I am not referring only to the lower category of officials. Even, from the highest to the lowest officials who are put in possession of these vehicles, they do not care to maintain these vehicles properly and give the necessary servicing whenever it becomes necessary. So, even a new vehicle which has been bought at a very high cost has had to go to the garage 'jail' for repairs within a few months. That has been my experience and sad experience. We have to evolve some method by which it would be possible to maintain these vehicles properly. As a matter of fact, I have been thinking whether, instead of purchasing these vehicles, keeping them as Government vehicles and asking the officers to maintain them, it would not be more profitable to hand them over to the officials themselves, perhaps collect half the cost from them and say, 'This would be your vehicle. You use it and maintain it properly'.

4-50 p.m.

Then, perhaps there may be sufficient incentive for them to maintain them properly because then the question of individual ownership also comes in. That is only a line of thinking which I have indicated.

Another aspect of the question also which I would like to bring to the notice of this House is with reference to the jeeps. Every scheme is a jeep scheme. People seem to think that without a jeep no project can be worked. This is so not only with reference to new schemes in the rural areas. Even when a scheme is started in the urban areas, they think that they should have a vehicle. I have worked out the economics of these jeeps. I find them very costly. The running cost is very high; the cost of maintenance is very high, and when I say 'maintenance', I include in it repairs also. After all, these jeeps are required only in places where there are no good roads and good means of communication available. But, I am afraid we think that we should purchase jeeps for all our requirements. I think that view shoud be changed. As a matter of fact, instead of purchasing jeeps, if we go in for the ordinary motor vehicles of 10 or 12 horse power, I feel that it would be more economical so far as the running cost and the maintenance cost are concerned. But all these matters will have to be looked into. Whether vehicles should be provided, what should be the system of providing vehicles, whether they should be Government-owned vehicles, whether they should be supplied to the officers concerned at a subsidized cost and whether we should purchase jeeps or other types of motor vehicles—all these require very careful examination and consideration.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Jeeps are necessary because the roads are not properly maintained.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That is what I said.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Formerly, the Government used to give loans to officers for purchase of motor vehicles. Have they now stopped that practice?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : We give those loans even now. Therefore, this is a matter which requires careful examination in order to see that waste is avoided. I do not mind if a car or a jeep is purchased provided it is maintained properly. If it is not maintained properly due to carelessness, then it becomes a national waste because the asset is wasted to a certain extent. Therefore, apart from the factor of cost and apart from the fact that the Government have got to spend more money, it becomes a national waste and, to that extent, perhaps, our foreign exchange resources are wasted. When we want more motor vehicles, we have to get more spare parts. Therefore, with reference to spare parts and the oil we use, foreign exchange resources are wasted if these vehicles are not maintained properly. All these do require careful examination. I assure the House that I shall try to go into these

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matters, in spite of the pre-occupations I am now having due to elections, and try to evolve a formula which would be satisfactory from every point of view.

With reference to the staff employed for the purpose of checking vehicles, the hon. Member Sri Purushotham made a point whether this staff was not unnecessary and whether the Police could not have managed it. This is a new scheme under which we wanted to check the vehicles plying along the trunk roads, particularly and just near the State borders. We were told that there was a good deal of evasion of taxation. Sir, what are called tax certificates have been used and the Police who are not accustomed to these certificates are easily deceived, because when they see a particular thing, they think that it is the certificate for the payment of the tax and they do not check it properly. Therefore, even with reference to the tax payable in respect of lorries and buses plying particularly on inter-State routes, it would be profitable to have a checking of these things and we have been assured that the returns from these checkings would be much more than the expenditure we incur. Now, it is intended to serve another purpose also. There is a good deal of evasion of sales tax. The staff is intended to check the vehicles and report the sort of goods that are transported from other States to our State so that it may be found out whether proper sales tax is being paid on these things which are being imported into our State or the goods which are getting out of this State. Therefore, I went through the scheme very carefully—and particularly when they ask for more staff, I go through those papers a little more carefully to find out whether there is any extravagance in asking for more staff and I thought that this was a very useful scheme. Even though it might cost about one lakh of rupees per annum, I thought it was worth trying. I assure the House that I shall have the working of this scheme reviewed at the end of six months or one year and if I find that it is profitable, then alone it will be continued; otherwise, I shall advise the department to drop this checking staff. (Interruption.) I catch the point that there should be a continuous transfer of all these officers. These are all details which need not be discussed now. It is now understood at what points we have to have these checks; not only with reference to lorries but even with reference to officials, that will be kept in mind.

About the staff in the Kanyakumari district, a point was made. The pattern of administration in the Kanyakumari district which was in the Travancore-Cochin State is a little bit different from ours. It might be that in certain respects they are more advanced than we. For example, as far as education is concerned, their recruitment is about 94 or 95 per cent. Therefore, there is almost universal primary education there. But in certain other respects such as co-operation and various other nation-building activities, they are not as advanced as we are. So, we cannot talk of these expansion schemes in these sectors simply because they are more

advanced in certain other sectors. That is why it has become necessary to give some extra staff to the Kanyakumari district and I do not think that we should grudge it because it has come into our State just now and every step should be taken to see that the people there are kept satisfied in all respects.

On the subject of education, very many useful suggestions were made. The hon. Member Sri Purushotham referred to the useful speech made by the hon. Member Sri V. R. Ranganatha Mudaliar. I got a copy of his speech immediately from the Legislature Department and I have sent it to the concerned department to be forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction so that he might make his comments on the very useful points made by him in the course
5 p.m. of his speech. I shall await the report of the Director of Public Instruction and try to take necessary action on the points made by the hon. Member Sri Ranganatha Mudaliar.

Then, apart from that, very many points were made even during this debate. Particularly, the hon. Member Sri Raza Khan referred to the requirements of private colleges and stated that while the requirements of the Government colleges were cared for, the Government must also come forward to satisfy the needs of private colleges. As a matter of fact, a scheme has been drawn up and the Vice-Chancellor has been asked to find out the requirements of the various private colleges under the reorganized scheme of university education with reference to buildings, laboratory equipment and various other things. We are seeking the assistance of the Government of India, who, we hope, will come to our assistance. As a matter of fact, there has been a promise of assistance in this respect. Therefore, I am hoping that it would be possible to meet the requirements of the private colleges. We have to meet the requirements of not only the Second Grade colleges, which have to be upgraded, but also some of the First Grade Colleges which also require some assistance. All these are being looked into.

Sir, the hon. Member Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan made certain points with reference to the introduction of bifurcated courses and stated that there was considerable delay in informing the various schools that they should get ready to start a particular course. I have taken note of it and shall try to see that early intimation is given to these schools so that no time will be lost in introducing these courses.

Reference was made to the provision of scientific apparatus. It was stated that sufficient apparatus was not available in the schools. I am sure many of the hon. Members would have visited the Soviet Education Exhibit which was so popular and which I had the privilege of inaugurating the other day. It was a very useful Exhibition which was worth a visit by any person interested in the educational problems of any country. It was regular education for me to go through that Exhibition. I was particularly struck by the scale of scientific apparatus which they had compulsorily provided for every secondary school. I do not think even some of our

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colleges, in certain aspects, have as much equipment as they have provided for secondary schools. As a matter of fact, I have tried to get 4 or 5 typical sets of scientific equipment, laboratory equipment, which are provided for their secondary schools so that we could also evolve the right type of scientific and laboratory equipment which may be provided for our secondary schools. After seeing the apparatus there and after finding out how they are meeting the requirements of a large number of schools in a big country like Russia, I think there is scope for an industry in our country too which will be quite profitable. If it would be possible for the Government themselves to start such an industry, I think it is worth examination. I am hoping that it would be possible to do something in this direction also. Therefore, I am glad mention was made about this matter.

Then, with reference to teachers' salaries and other things which were referred to by the hon. Members, I may assure the House, particularly the Members who are interested in the teaching profession, that all those points will be kept in mind. We will particularly keep in mind the subject of how to increase the emoluments of teachers and how to raise their status in spite of the constant complaint made by the hon. Member Sri G. Krishnamoorthi that the Government are callous about the problem of teachers and that they are not taking any steps in that direction. Sir, some people think that the steps that they suggest are alone the steps to be taken and when steps other than the ones suggested by them are taken, they ignore those steps and become blind to those steps. In spite of his eloquent advocacy, I am afraid the hon. Member Sri Krishnamoorthi has not contributed anything to see that the status of the teachers is raised. I have to state that all his suggestions are Utopian and impracticable. He was only using words and words. While listening to his speech, I was only tempted to remark like that Shakespearan character (Troilus), 'Words, words, mere words . . .' Mere torrent of words will never solve any problem. All his suggestions are impracticable and Utopian. Particularly, he was complaining about our building programme. May I tell him that, when compared to the building programme of other countries or even other States, we have got a very poor programme? After all, we cannot get on without buildings to a certain extent. We want to give scientific education. If we want to do that, we want laboratories. We must have buildings to house the laboratories. Then, you want a library, a good library. For the purpose of having a good and decent library, we want a building. If one goes into the question, one will be convinced that there is need for buildings for schools and colleges. So also, with reference to hospitals, we want buildings. It is only after very careful scrutiny as to whether a particular building is absolutely necessary, that we sanction its construction. There is a standing order to the effect that the building programme should be minimized as much as possible. Therefore, I may assure the hon. Member that it is not as if we are having an extravagant building programme. On the

other hand, the complaint is that we are not having a sufficiently big building programme. Due to the poverty of the country not only with regard to finance, but even with reference to the materials required for putting up these buildings, we have to restrict our building activities and they have been restricted to a very great extent.

Then, the question of Employment Exchanges was brought in. It is only recently that we have taken over the Exchanges. I hope it would be possible for the State Government to run them in a more efficient manner and it could be done only by the experience we gain. Not only the Employment Exchanges but also the Industrial Training Centres attached thereto have been taken over by us and we hope that we will be able to make very good use of the Employment Exchanges and the Industrial Training Centres.

I was particularly pleased to hear from the hon. Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan that the State Transport was improving even though he was not quite satisfied with the improvements which had already taken place. I do agree that there is always scope for improvement, and further improvement and progress. We are trying our best to solve the problem and put on the road as many vehicles as possible. My own impression is, if anything, we have put on the road buses, particularly new buses, a little more than our actual requirements warrant so that there may be no bottle-necks. I am glad to inform this hon. House that, as a matter of fact, overcrowding, even during the peak hour has been minimised to a very great extent even though it may be necessary to overcome that problem to the fullest extent. But, that will be an external problem whatever be the number of buses put on the road in view of the expanding activities in the City and the growing population. Perhaps, we will never be able to overcome that problem. Still, the problem is kept in mind and sufficient number of buses are put on the road.

The hon. Member Sri Raza Khan wanted to know about our experience in running the Transport Service in the Kanyakumari district. It is only recently that we have taken it over. So, I am sorry, I am not able to give the exact number of vehicles. It will be round about 50 or 60 which we have got as our legitimate share. There is still some quarrel with regard to two or three vehicles. That is a minor matter and I hope it will be settled soon. We have taken a few vehicles from here and put them on the road there. I am impressed with the fact that they are working profitably and well. But, it is too early to give a report about it. When we gain some experience of running the system for six months or one year, it will be time to find out how economic it has been, whether it has made good progress, whether it is a profitable concern or a losing concern. My impression is that it should be a profitable concern. These are the various matters which have been referred to by the hon. Members. I do not think I have got the time to go through all the various points of the hon. Members who have taken part in the discussion. I can assure them all that

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I shall look into those points and if any action is necessary, I shall try to take such action as may be found necessary as early as possible. ...

I have to compliment the hon. Member Mr. Purushotham, in particular, on having studied the supplementary statement in a very detailed way. When I mention his name, it does not mean that I make no reference to others. Other hon. Members also have understood what the statement contains and have spoken. As a matter of fact, I have seen in the past many Members speaking without knowing what the papers supplied to them contained. That has been my experience elsewhere also and, therefore, it was a very pleasing thing now to find here that Members were well-informed and that their criticisms also were always to the point. I may assure the hon. Members that I have been greatly benefited by the discussions here and I do not think that I have any further points to meet. 5-10 p.m.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Then, why not you co-opt us to the Assembly Committee on Public Accounts?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The discussion is over. The Hon. Mr. Manickavelu will now move the Bill standing in his name.

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILL,

THE MADRAS INAMS (ASSESSMENT) BILL, 1956 (L.A. BILL NO. 36 OF 1956).

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sir, I move—

" That the Madras Inams (Assessment) Bill , 1956 (L.A. Bill No. 36 of 1956), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration."

I would like to bring to the notice of the House that there are certain classes of land called inam lands which enjoy certain privileges in the matter of payment of assessment. The holders of some of these inam lands pay a nominal land revenue. In other cases, the holders of land pay land revenue at a concessional rate. The question of levying full assessment on this kind of lands has been under the consideration of the Government for a considerable time past. There is no special reason why the holders of inam lands should continue to enjoy the privilege of paying less assessment. Therefore, the Government have now come forward with proposals to levy full assessment on all inam lands. Assessments are levied with reference to the fasli year and, therefore, it is proposed to bring this measure into force with effect from 1st July 1956. Provision has been made in the Bill for an appeal to the District Collector against the rate of assessment ordered to be levied by the Revenue Divisional Officer. Provision has also been made for the survey of inam lands. I may also mention, in this connection, that the total revenue likely to be derived on this account is about Rs. 47 lakhs.

* Printed as Appendix on pages 335–339 infra.